

SEVERE LOCAL STORMS FOR AUGUST 1946

[The table herewith contains such data as have been received concerning severe local storms that occurred during the month. A revised list of tornadoes will appear in the United States Meteorological Yearbook]

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
<i>August 1946</i>							
Augusta, Nelson, Lunenburg, and Cumberland Counties, Va.	1	4-5 p. m.	440 yards-6 miles.		\$106,000	Hail and wind	Much loss in crops, principally tobacco. Large barn in Lunenburg County struck by lightning and burned. Path 2-8 miles long.
La Union, N. Mex.	1	5 p. m.			150,000	Heavy hail	Much loss in cotton; some loss in corn, tomatoes, and alfalfa seed.
Phoenix, Ariz.	2	9:06-9:45 p. m.			100,000	Thunderstorm and high wind.	Power and telephone lines disrupted; a number of buildings of the warehouse type along the Southern Pacific R. R. tracks on the west side of town damaged severely by wind. Roofs ripped off plants of 2 seed companies; plate glass windows broken. Lightning tore a hole in roof of club on East Washington St.; a haystack burned.
Elizabeth City, N. C.	2	P. m.				Wind and rain	2 planes damaged, 1 demolished, at the air base on the Pasquotank River; hangar door ripped off. Wind recorded at 72 miles per hour, with 1.25 inches of rain in 20 minutes.
New England coast	2			2		Northeaster	Most severe on Cape Cod, where winds up to 60 miles per hour were recorded. 2 persons swept to death from an ordinarily safe observation point. Utility service disrupted in several communities and steamboat schedules canceled. Small boats blown ashore. Driving hazardous because of electric wires and tree limbs blown across roads.
Miami, Ariz.	3	6-6:40 p. m.	14		21,200	Heavy rain	Water and mud damaged buildings, automobiles, and property to the amount of \$20,000; damage to highways, \$1,200; path 8 miles long.
Cortaro, Ariz., vicinity of.	3				8,000	do	Damage to highways and bridges.
Salt Lake City, Utah	3	3:30 p. m.	11		5,000	Wind squalls	Cinder block home and outbuildings completely destroyed. Traffic interrupted by broken trees and numerous chicken coops.
Lawton, Okla., vicinity of.	4	6:15 p. m.	11			Hail	No crop loss. Much damage to composition roofs. Insurance companies expected about 2,000 claims. Loss considerable, not estimated; path 2 miles long.
Mexico and New Haven, N. Y.	4	8:30-9 p. m.				High wind, hail, electrical, and rain.	Village plunged into darkness for several hours because of widespread damage, including falling trees which blocked traffic and crippled utility wires. Large tree falling across highway caused rerouting of traffic. Loss in corn from hail.
Hutchinson, Kans.	5	2-5:30 a. m.		0		Small tornado	Funnel cloud observed did not reach ground. Some roofs and buildings damaged.
Terre Haute, Ind.	5	4 p. m.	15		5,000	Hail and wind	Very large hail; no details.
Kyle Canyon, Nev.	5	1:05-5:05 p. m.	117		7,500	Heavy rain and flood	Storm general over the Charleston division of the Nevada National Forest and surrounding country in the vicinity of Charleston Peak. 2.39 inches of rain recorded in 4 hours at Kyle Canyon River Station, 5 miles east of peak. Damage confined to washing out forest trails, and roads, water lines, and camp grounds. Hail scattered; minor damage from wind.
Craig and Mays Counties, Okla.	5	9-10:15 p. m.			3,500	Heavy hail and wind	Loss in about 60 acres of vegetables.
Penasco County, N. Mex.	6	11 a. m.			5,000	Heavy hail	Branches torn from trees; small trees uprooted; utility wires down; some plate glass windows smashed; hundreds of dollars' damage to signs. From 5:26 to 5:38 p. m., 1 inch of rain fell. Few hail pellets reported.
Concord, N. C.	6	5:15-5:45 p. m.				Thunderstorm, wind, and hail.	Damage to streets and drains on east side of town; path 1 mile long.
Clifton, Ariz.	6	6 p. m.	880		4,000	Heavy rain	Barns and outbuildings damaged, \$15,000; loss in crops, \$10,000; path 20 miles long.
Waterville to Beattie, Kans., and vicinities.	7	7:30 p. m.	11		25,000	Violent wind	More than 6 inches of rain in 12 hours reported at some stations, with record or near-record 24-hour amounts at many places. Heavy damage by widespread floods; no estimate of loss available.
Massachusetts, southeastern portion, and Rhode Island.	7	8 a. m.-10 p. m.				Heavy rain	At Muskego Beach, a picnic hall and 2 barns struck by lightning burned.
Milwaukee and Muskego, Wis.	9	2:25-3:15 a. m.			24,000	Electrical	Rainfall measured 2.11 inches in Imperial and 1.89 inches in Calexico. From 11:08 a. m., to 12:15 p. m., 1.96 inches were measured in Imperial. Sheds blown over, shingles torn from roofs, utility lines damaged by wind and lightning, and basements flooded. 13 airplanes badly damaged on private airport near Imperial. Motor traffic delayed. No serious loss in crops, as few are exposed at this time of year.
Imperial Valley, Calif., central portion.	11	11 a. m.-8 p. m.			40,000	Thunderstorm, heavy rain, and high wind.	There were 3 separate storms, one about 7:30 p. m., another at 11:30 p. m., the last at 3 a. m., all occurring over the same path. There were some indications of a tornado, but vortex cloud not seen. About 30 to 40 barns and outbuildings demolished or badly damaged, with considerable damage to buildings in Garnett; path 25 miles long.
Harris to Bush City, Kans., and vicinities.	12-13	7:30 p. m.-3:30 a. m.	12		220,000	Wind and hail	Funnel cloud moved from northwest to southeast. 2 garages destroyed. A wind-blown boulder broke through the side of a house; 11 windows broken; furniture inside of building turned askew. At Six Corners, N. Y., the wind blew a man from the horse he rode.
Niagara Falls, N. Y.	13	11:30 a. m.-12:15 p. m.	33	0	1,500	Tornado	Some loss in sugar beets, corn, and flax. Small grains in shock or swath considerably beaten.
Fisher, Minn., and vicinity.	15	11 p. m.	16		5,000	Hail	Several windows broken; roofing, greenhouses, and a roller rink tent damaged; automobile tops punctured. Loss in growing crops.
Rochester, Minn., and vicinity.	16	4:28 p. m.	15		20,000	do	Number of barns, outbuildings, silos, and windmills wrecked, and many residences damaged. Poles and wires down; many trees uprooted; 3 cattle killed; more than 1,000 acres of corn badly lodged.
Fairmont, Minn., vicinity of.	16	5:30-6:30 p. m.	16		115,000	Thundersqualls	In a strip 25 miles long and a mile wide, loss in corn estimated at \$200,000. Barn wrecked by wind; some trees blown down; much damage to buildings at fair grounds.
Palmer to Central City, Nebr.	16	6 p. m., C. S. T.	13		250,000	Heavy hail and wind.	Barn and other buildings burned.
York, Nebr., 5 miles north.	16	6-7 p. m.			5,000	Electrical	Barns and other buildings destroyed or damaged. \$50,000; loss in growing corn, stored oats, barley, and hay, \$10,000; 8 cattle and some poultry killed, \$1,000. Many trees uprooted or broken; utility service interrupted in the area southward over Waukesha and Milwaukee Counties.
Fond du Lac County, Wis., northern and central portions.	16	8-10 p. m.			61,000	Thunderstorm and high wind.	Loss in corn and soybeans; roof of hog house punctured.
Nobles County, Minn., northeastern portion.	16	P. m.			25,000	Hail	Barn, including 50 tons of hay and 700 bushels of oats, burned.
Marathon County, Wis.	16	do			5,000	Electrical	At the airfield 3 miles southwest of Wichita, 11 planes and a hangar were damaged; some damage in Beulah Park in south Wichita; path 2 miles long.
Wichita, Kans., and vicinity.	17	3 p. m.	490		57,000	High wind	

See footnote at end of table.

SEVERE LOCAL STORMS FOR AUGUST 1946—Continued

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Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
Mankato, Minn., vicinity of.	August 17	6:40 p. m.	440	11	225,000	Tornado	Buildings on 8 farms and 3 houses and buildings of the Great Lakes Pipeland Plant wrecked or badly damaged. Tourist camp demolished; number of automobiles and road graders blown off road; much poultry, including several thousand turkeys, and a number of livestock perished. Hundreds of trees uprooted; poles and wires down; loss in growing crops. Storm moved from southwest to northeast over a path 10 miles long.
Braham, Minn., and vicinity.	17	7:40 p. m.	12		60,000	Thunder squalls and hail.	Number of town and country buildings, as well as silos and windmills, wrecked or moved from their foundations and otherwise damaged; many trees, poles, and wires down; corn lodged; some livestock killed. Loss in growing crops, especially corn, from hail, \$26,500, included in \$60,000 estimate.
Posey County, Ind.	17	7:45 p. m.	112			Wind and hail	Buildings damaged; loss in crops.
Wells, Minn., and vicinity	17	7:48 p. m.	200		700,000	Tornado	Buildings on 2 farms wrecked or badly damaged; parochial school, rectory, and church partly destroyed; 2 town houses and a number of garages demolished; public school building and some houses damaged. Nearly every building in the business section of this district damaged; some entirely destroyed. Poles and wires down; hundreds of trees uprooted; much poultry, especially turkeys, and some livestock perished. Loss in growing crops. 25 persons injured, 4 seriously. Storm moved from southwest to northeast over a path 5 miles long.
Galena, Kans.	17	8 p. m.	200		50,000	High wind	Theater damaged; in smaller buildings windows were blown in; some roofs blown off. 3 persons injured; path 4 miles long.
Dunn County, Wis., eastern portion.	17	10:45-11:30 p. m.	1 1/2		5,500	Hail	Loss in corn, soybeans, tobacco, and garden crops, \$5,000; damage to roofs, windows, and automobiles, \$500; path 7 miles long.
Rose Hill, Va.	17					Excessive rain	Considerable damage to grassland on mountainside due to landslide. 1 road completely washed out; gullies 3-4 feet deep. About 5 inches of rain fell in 9 hours.
Massachusetts, Connecticut Valley of Hampshire County.	23	3-3:30 p. m.			150,000	Hail	Loss in about 350 acres of tobacco. Only 1/4 of harvest completed when storm occurred.
Cheyenne, Wyo	26	1:02-1:45 a. m.			100,000	Heavy rain	1.45 inch of rain fell in 43 minutes; .98 inch of this fell in a 10-minute period, breaking previous records for falls for 5- and 10-minute periods. This was also the heaviest rainfall for periods of 3 hours or less in August. Damage confined to flooded cellars and basement apartments in the eastern section of the city.
Reedsville, Browns Summit, Gibsonville, and Cedar Grove, N. C., and vicinities.	26	2-4 p. m.	12-3		900,000	Severe hail	Storm moved from Virginia southward into Rockingham County, sweeping a 2-mile strip across the county southward into Guilford County. The devastated belt was more than 40 miles long in Rockingham and Guilford Counties, making a total of more than 80 square miles affected. The hailstones, bullet-sized, were pelted through heavy rain. Orange County reported this to be the worst hailstorm in years through the Cedar Grove section of the county, causing much loss in remaining field crops. Principal loss in corn and tobacco. Fortunately, most of latter crop harvested. Hail 1 1/4 inches deep in some areas. Crop loss in Guilford County, \$300,000; in Rockingham County \$600,000.
Albuquerque, N. Mex., east of.	26	3:30 p. m.				Heavy rain	Rain of almost cloudburst proportions flooded highways and basements.
Lucketts, Va.	26	4:30 p. m.	12		500	Hail	Hailstones heavy; loss in corn.
Pinehurst, N. C., 3 1/4 miles west-northwest.	26	6:27 p. m., E. S. T.				Wind and hail	8 steel towers of power transmission lines toppled; 40 trees uprooted; hail reported ankle-deep.
Pueblo, Colo.	26	6:50-8:20 p. m.			65,000	Flood	Basements flooded; power, telephone, and railroad service disrupted; roads and bridges washed out. A 12-car trainload of cement derailed, and cement scattered over a mile area as the result of a washed-out culvert; train service disrupted for several hours.
Maine Coast, York Harbor to Wells.	26	7 p. m.-midnight			250,000	Heavy rain, cloudburst, flood, and wind.	8 inches of rain recorded in non-standard gages. Heaviest flood damage at amusement center of York Beach, where many parked cars were inundated. Store cellars filled with water, ruining stored stock; water rose to 4 feet on ground floor of many stores. Other losses to small boats and bridges washed out. York Beach damage, \$300,000; other damage \$50,000. Flood due to combination of extremely heavy rains and incoming high tide driven by storm winds.
Hagerman, N. Mex.	28	P. m.				Heavy rain, electrical.	2 barns destroyed by lightning.

1 Miles instead of yards.

LATE STORM REPORTS FOR JULY 1946

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
Appanoose, Monroe, Davis, Wapelle, and Wabaska Counties, Iowa.	July 16-17	4 p. m.		5	\$350,000	Heavy rain and flood.	Small streams flooded; bridges, culverts, and railroad tracks washed out. Flash flood occurred in lower Des Moines River. Damage in Monroe and southeastern Mahaska Counties estimated at \$350,000. Not quite as much in other areas. 4 persons drowned near Albia as automobile plunged into creek at washed-out bridge site. Railroad man killed in accident indirectly due to storm. 24-hour rainfall measured from 4.36 to 7.70 inches at different points.
Hancock County, Iowa.	18	9 p. m.	12			Hail	Loss in crops several hundred thousand dollars, not estimated; path 12 miles long.
Jasper County, Iowa.	27				1,500	Rain and flood	Basement flooded; small creeks overflowed.
Lyon County, Iowa.	28	7:30 p. m.			600	Hail	Loss in crops.
Morland, Kans., and vicinity.	29				8,000	High winds	Loss in crops, \$5,000; property damage, \$3,000.
Plymouth to Sioux Counties, Iowa.	29	P. m.	112		250,000	Hail and wind	Hail fell over an irregular area, 12 miles across at its greatest width, from near Seney, in Plymouth County, along and on both sides of Floyd River to Newkirk and Hospers in Sioux County. Greatest damage occurred in an area about 6 miles square and 2 miles south and west of Newkirk and Hospers. In the worst area some corn and soybeans were total loss.

1 Miles instead of yards.